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Atty. Dkt. No. 067183-0186

#4

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Yoshiaki SHIOTA
Title: FAULT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
FOR SWITCHING EQUIPMENT
Appl. No.: 09/588,190
Filing Date: 06/07/2000
Examiner: Unknown
Art Unit: 2785

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on a modified Form PTOSB/08B is a listing of document(s) known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. A copy of the listed document(s) is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The instant Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first action under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). In the alternative, the instant Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(1).

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

The undersigned hereby states in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Statement.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

The documents listed on the attached PTO/SB/08B were cited as being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding Japanese application. A copy of an English language abstract of the listed documents, if available, is being provided. The absence of a translation or an English-language counterpart document does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider this document (37 C.F.R. § 1.98 and M.P.E.P. § 609).

The Examiner in the corresponding Japanese patent application has commented as follows:

Regarding Claims 1–4

Cited Literature 1 describes a physical layer control circuit in an interface device causing the operation of a reset function in the interface device itself when a pause in the physical layer is detected.

Cited Literature 2 describes resetting any circuits that are not currently connected when there is a fault that requires initialization.

List of Cited Literature

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H10-285163
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication S61-277246

A new Notification of Reasons for Rejection will be forwarded if new reasons for rejection are discovered.

Record of Prior Art Literature Search Results

Fields Searched IPC 7th Edition H04M 3/22

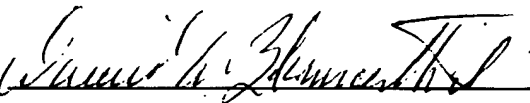
This Record of Prior Art Literature Search Results does not constitute a reason for rejection.

It is believed that the instant information disclosure statement is being filed prior to the mailing date of any Notice of Allowance or Final Office Action. However, if this information disclosure statement is filed after the mailing date of the Notice of Allowance or Final Office Action, then applicant(s) hereby request(s) and authorize(s) the PTO to charge the fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Applicant respectfully requests that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08B be returned in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 609.

Respectfully submitted,

Date June 20, 2002

By 

FOLEY & LARDNER
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Attorney Docket No. 067183-0186

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

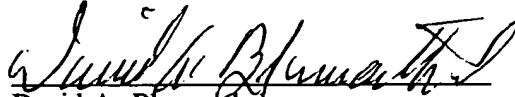
Assistant Commissioner:

I hereby certify that the following paper(s) and/or fee along with any attachments referred to or identified as being attached or enclosed are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a) on the date of deposit shown below with sufficient postage and in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231.

1. Information Disclosure Statement
2. Form PTO SB/08
3. Postcard

Respectfully submitted,

June 20, 2002
Date


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